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KENNEDY GETS BRIEFING

PRESIDENT-TO-BE
HEARS REPORT
FROM DULLES ON
LATIN SITUATION

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Senator, CIA Chief
Meet for 2½ Hours
at Palm Beach —
'Wide Range of Mat-
ters' Covered.

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By THOMAS W. OTTENAD
A Staff Correspondent of the
Post-Dispatch.

PALM BEACH, Fla., Nov. 18
—President-elect John F. Ken-
nedy received a briefing on the
tense situation in Nicaragua and
Guatemala today from the na-
tion's top intelligence officer.

The report was given Kennedy
at his vacation headquarters
here this morning by Allen W.
Dulles, director of the Central
Intelligence Agency. Dulles was
accompanied by Richard Bissell,
a deputy director of CIA.

The two men conferred with
Kennedy for 2 hours and 40
minutes on the front lawn of his
family's home overlooking the
Atlantic ocean.

Kennedy's acting press secre-
tary, Donald M. Wilson, said the
discussion covered a "wide
range of matters, one of which
was the situation in Central
America."

Details Withheld.

Wilson declined to give any de-
tails on the discussion.

He also refused to say whether
Kennedy supports the action of
President Eisenhower in order-
ing American naval units to be
ready to provide military assist-
ance to Guatemala and Nica-
ragua to repel any Communist-di-
rected internal subversive ac-
tions.

"We are going to have no com-
ment on that," Wilson stated.

"Senator Kennedy feels it
would be improper for him to
discuss actions or policies of the
United States at the present time
because he has no responsibili-
ties for policies," Wilson stated.
"That will be his position on all
such matters between now and
inauguration day."

It was learned earlier, how-
ever, that Kennedy is vitally in-
terested in the critical situation
in Central America. It was known
in advance of today's meeting
that he planned to ask Dulles for

a complete report on the situa-
tion in both Guatemala and
Nicaragua.

It was understood that it was
the critical situation in these
two countries, as well as in
Costa Rica, that led the Presi-
dent-elect to ask for today's
briefing.

Request Made Tuesday.

Kennedy made the request last
Tuesday. At that time the only
reason given for the meeting
was a general explanation that
the President-elect wanted to go
over "a number of problems
facing the United States."

The request for a briefing on
the Central American situation
preceded by two days the an-
nouncement of President Eisen-
hower's order for standby mili-
tary assistance to be made avail-
able to Guatemala and Nica-
ragua.

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